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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT
CO. NO.

25X1

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR 15 January 1954

SUBJECT General Information on Soviet Military Activities

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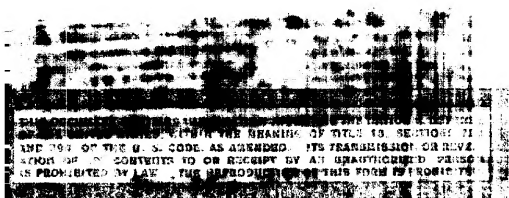
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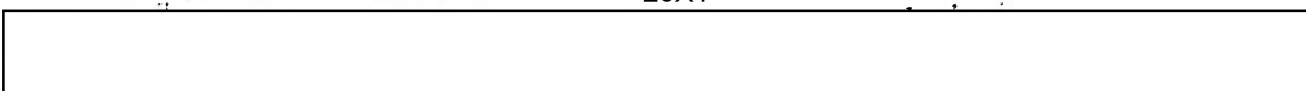
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1. On 21 October 1953 in the city of Guestrou there was renewed activity among Soviet troops and vehicles. There were many soldiers with red and black and sometimes with blue shoulderboards. The uniforms of all were dirty and greasy. On the red shoulder-boards one often saw insignia such as a harp or lyre and small stars within zig-zag circles. A Soviet airfield has reportedly been established near Guestrou.
2. A Soviet depot has been built along the Bad Searow-Süd railroad, along the road Neu Goltz-Alt Goltz to the station at Lemitzsch and the station at Wilmersdorf and along Geschwister Schollstrasse. The depot is surrounded by a double barbed wire fence. Inside the depot is a large underground bunker. It is rumored that in the bunker are ammunition, supplies and secret models of military equipment. The installation is located in the woods, and it is very difficult to observe it from the outside. Between the railroad stations of Wilmersdorf, Bad Searow-Pieskow and Bad Searow-Süd runs a branch railroad line which services the depot. The installation is well guarded by patrols with dogs. From 250 to 300 Soviet soldiers are at the depot. They do all the work. There are no Germans at the depot.
3. Soviet troops confined to the guard house receive 200 grams of bread and soup on one day and 200 grams of bread and water on the next. All reading matter is forbidden. The guardhouses have been full since there have been the new relaxed rules for the army. In some cases, soldiers have to wait several days for an opening before they can start serving their sentences.
4. In the city of Gardelegen there are many Soviet vehicles. Soldiers walk in the city parks. The caps and shoulderboards are primarily black. The insignia in some are the crossed cannon of the artillery. One meets soldiers with red shoulderboards and yellow insignia like lyres. At the komandatura two groups, each composed of three soldiers and one officer, were observed patrolling.

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